

was named a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence in 2006 and a Magnet School of Excellence in 2008. Most recently, Watson Williams Elementary School was a recipient of the Title I School of Distinction for 2009 which was based on student achievement during the school years of 2006–2007 and 2007–2008.

Principal Frasca attributes the high level of student achievement during his tenure at Watson Williams Elementary School to the concerted efforts of parents, students, teachers, staff and administration.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing Watson Williams Elementary School for defying the odds, and establishing itself as a model of hope and success for all struggling schools throughout our country.

COMMEMORATING THE FIFTH ANNUAL DIALYSIS AWARENESS WALK

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the fifth annual Dialysis Awareness Walk taking place Sunday, March 7, 2010. The Sunset Kiwanis Club of Fountain Hills and DaVita Patient Citizen's Group has organized this wonderful and exciting event.

I would particularly like to honor Edward Stizza for his efforts coordinating this annual event, and for his tremendous commitment to educating the community about Chronic Kidney Disease and End Stage renal disease. The proceeds from the walk will benefit the Dialysis Patient Citizens Group, a non-profit organization that provides education for dialysis patients and their families. Additionally, the walk provides an invaluable forum for organizations to answer questions and provide pertinent information regarding diabetes, kidney dialysis, nutrition and organ transplants.

More than 20 million Americans have chronic kidney disease, which if left untreated can lead to End Stage Renal Disease. However, with the help of individuals like Mr. Stizza, and particularly his work organizing the Dialysis Awareness Walk, we can raise the public awareness of this debilitating disease and the plight of the more than 400,000 Americans who rely on kidney dialysis today.

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding the fifth annual Dialysis Awareness Walk. I am confident that this event will do much to increase support and funding for those whose lives are intimately affected by chronic kidney disease.

HONORING MR. ROGER L. GALATAS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Roger L. Galatas as the "King of the Court" of the Montgomery County Performing Arts Society for 2010.

Mr. Galatas is an icon in Montgomery County, Texas. For almost 20 years he worked alongside George Mitchell, the founder of the Woodlands, on Mr. Mitchell's innovative and internationally recognized development team.

Roger has held many leadership roles throughout his years in The Woodlands, including former CEO and president of The Woodlands Corporation and the founding director of The Woodlands Hospital.

Mr. Galatas has been instrumental in making education in Montgomery County stronger by serving as a founding director of The John Cooper School and past president of the Conroe Independent School District Board of Trustees. Galatas Elementary in the Conroe Independent School District today proudly bears his name.

He is a past board of directors for Stewart Title Company of Montgomery County and the United Way of Montgomery County, a former board member of the Memorial Hermann Hospital System, former trustee and officer of the Urban Land Institute, and he has served on the Real Estate Advisory Committee of the Trust for Public Land.

Mr. Galatas continues his regional leadership role as a current board member of the Center for Houston's Future and the current chair of the Strategic Planning Committee.

In 2004, Mr. Galatas co-wrote a book with Jim Barlow titled "The Woodlands, The Inside Story of Creating a Better Hometown". The book gives the inside-scoop of how The Woodlands has grown into what it is today—a fast growing, environmentally sustainable community with a vibrant economy that he played an immeasurable role in shaping.

Without question Mr. Galatas, with the support of his beautiful wife Ann, has served his community above and beyond and continues to make Montgomery County and the Houston region a better place in which to live, work and play.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call him my friend and to recognize Mr. Roger L. Galatas and his countless contributions to the people of The Woodlands and Montgomery County.

I urge you to join me in recognizing Roger Galatas as the Royal "King of the Court" at the Second Annual Montgomery County Performing Arts Society Mardi Gras Ball that took place on February 13, 2010.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCOTTSDALE'S LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Scottsdale's Little Red Schoolhouse. The schoolhouse has been a prominent pillar within the Scottsdale community since its beginnings and an important historic marker of how far the city has developed.

Since its construction in 1910, the schoolhouse has continuously evolved to match the needs of a flourishing community. Originally designed as a school for eight students, the schoolhouse now serves as a historical museum under the leadership of the Scottsdale Historical Society. Over its many years, it has

also served as a polling place, a Sunday school, a county court office and as Scottsdale's Town Hall.

The schoolhouse fostered the growth of the community and symbolizes Scottsdale's continued prosperity. I am confident that the schoolhouse will continue to thrive and serve Scottsdale for the next 100 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commemorating Scottsdale's Little Red Schoolhouse, and expressing gratitude to all of the volunteers and advocates of historical preservation who have made this special celebration possible.

CONGRATULATING PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portland Development Commission and the City of Portland, Oregon.

The Portland Development Commission, the city's urban renewal and economic development agency, has been able to exceed their established diversity goals in construction contracting for each of the last two years.

The PDC results are promising. In tough economic times and in a city with a small minority population PDC has exceeded goals for utilization of minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses by at least 15 percent annually, committing more than 35 percent of the dollars committed to state-certified firms.

Three years ago the PDC executive leadership and Board took bold steps by revising the decade-old policies governing business and workforce equity and adopting significant policy changes, which included: The adoption of the PDC Construction Wage Policy; revision of the PDC Business and Workforce Equity Policies; convening a community-based Workforce Diversity Advisory Committee, whose work resulted in PDC's new workforce diversity goals for all PDC construction projects and upcoming new contractor requirements; closer working relationships with the National Association of Minority Contractors-Oregon, the minority chambers of commerce and the Metropolitan Contracting Improvement Partnership, which focuses on building contractor capacity; a renewed partnership with organized labor that changed the state prevailing wage statutes on public-private partnerships; support for pre-apprenticeship programs such as Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., the Evening Trades Apprenticeship Program, WorkSystems Inc., Irvington Covenant, Portland Youthbuilders and Construction Apprenticeship and Workforce Solutions; and providing technical assistance at no cost to all minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses bidding on or receiving PDC constructs.

Additionally, I'm pleased to report that the PDC has achieved these results in part due to close collaboration with organized labor. These jobs are family wage jobs that provide health insurance benefits.

The PDC is committed to making further progress. They've established a Workforce Diversity Strategy Committee that will function